

APPLICATION

FOR UNITED STATES LETTERS PATENT

SPECIFICATION

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

BE IT KNOWN THAT I, **MICHAEL A. KRALL**, a citizen of
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, have invented a new and useful
BREAST POCKET FOR SWEATSHIRTS AND METHOD OF
MANUFACTURING of which the following is a specification:

BREAST POCKET FOR SWEATSHIRTS AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

10 Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to articles of apparel and more particularly pertains to a new breast pocket for sweatshirts and method of manufacturing for enhancing the usefulness of
15 sweatshirts.

Description of the Prior Art

The range of styles of articles of apparel is extremely broad.
20 Yet, the ubiquitous sweatshirt seems to be present almost every wardrobe throughout the country. Sweatshirts serve as a means to convey messages if support for schools, churches, athletic teams, movies, philosophies, and a wide range of other concerns. Some of the various styles of sweatshirts include hand-warmer pockets
25 positioned on the front of the garment adjacent to the stomach of the user.

The use of pockets in articles of apparel is known in the prior art. Illustrative examples include: U.S. Patent No. 4,062,064; U.S.
30 Patent No. 4,791,681; U.S. Patent No. 3,602,914; U.S. Patent No. 2,609,541; U.S. Patent No. 1,551,059; U.S. Patent No. 2,677,131; U.S. Patent No. 2,058,801; and U.S. Patent No. 5,561,860.

While these devices fulfill their respective, particular objectives and requirements, the need remains for a pocket which provides a secure means of storage for user accessories, without detracting from logos, indicia, graphics, or general aesthetics of an article of apparel.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention meets the needs presented above by providing a pouch type pocket positioned on an interior of the garment and minimizing the visual observability of the pocket.

One advantage of the present invention is its layered construction with the article of apparel minimizing the potential for bunching or puckering of the outside surface of the article of apparel.

Another advantage of the present invention is the slit design of the opening in the front of the article of apparel further minimizing the visual outline of the pocket.

To this end, the present invention generally comprises a main portion and a pouch member. The main portion includes a front panel, a back panel, a neck opening and pair of arm openings. The front panel also has a slit therein. The slit is preferably positioned over either the right or left breast of the user when the main portion is being worn. The pouch member has an opening. Most preferably the opening of the pouch member is operationally coupled to the slit of the front panel. The pouch member is preferably positioned to abut an interior portion of the front panel.

A closure device may be provided to selectively close the opening of the pouch member.

There has thus been outlined, rather broadly, the more
5 important features of the invention in order that the detailed
description thereof that follows may be better understood, and in
order that the present contribution to the art may be better
appreciated. There are additional features of the invention that
will be described hereinafter and which will form the subject matter
10 of the claims appended hereto.

The objects of the invention, along with the various features
of novelty which characterize the invention, are pointed out with
particularity in the claims annexed to and forming a part of this
15 disclosure.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The invention will be better understood and objects other than
20 those set forth above will become apparent when consideration is
given to the following detailed description thereof. Such
description makes reference to the annexed drawings wherein:

Figure 1 is a schematic perspective view of a new breast
25 pocket for sweatshirts and method of manufacturing according to
the present invention.

Figure 2 is a schematic side view of the pouch member of the
present invention.

30 Figure 3 is a schematic front view of the sweatshirt of the
present invention.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

With reference now to the drawings, and in particular to Figures 1 through 3 thereof, a new breast pocket for sweatshirts and
5 method of manufacturing embodying the principles and concepts of the present invention and generally designated by the reference numeral 10 will be described.

As best illustrated in Figures 1 through 3, the breast pocket
10 for sweatshirts and method of manufacturing 10 generally comprises a main portion 20 and a pouch member 40.

The main portion 20 includes a front panel 22, a back panel 26, a neck opening 28 and pair of arm openings 30. The front panel
15 22 also has a slit 24 therein. The slit 24 is preferably positioned over either the right or left breast of the user when the main portion 20 is being worn.

The pouch member 40 has an opening 42. Most preferably the
20 opening 42 of the pouch member 40 is operationally coupled to the slit 24 of the front panel 20. The pouch member 40 is preferably positioned to abut an interior portion of the front panel 22.

In at least one embodiment a closure means 50 is provided to
25 selectively close the opening 42 of the pouch member 40.

Preferred implementations of the closure means 50 include a button/button hole pair, a snap, a zipper, and hook and loop fastener, although other suitable devices may be used with
30 satisfactory results.

In an embodiment, the opening 42 of the pouch member 40 is secured to and aligned with the slit 24 in the front panel 22 by stitching a perimeter edge of the pouch member 40 encompassing the opening 42 to a perimeter edge of the slit 24 in the front panel 22.

A pair of arm portions 32 may be operationally secured to the main portion 22. Each one of the pair of arm portions 32 is aligned with an associated one of the pair of arm openings 30.

A hood 34 may also be operationally coupled to the main portion 20.

In at least one embodiment an indicia 60 is positioned on the front panel 22. Preferably, the slit 24 has a very small vertical width limiting its visual observability with regard to the indicia 60.

In a preferred embodiment, the pouch member 40 further comprises a pouch front portion 46 and a pouch back portion 48. The pouch front portion 46 is operationally coupled to the pouch back portion 48 along a bottom edge and two side edges. The top edge is adjacent to the opening. The pouch front portion 46 abuts the interior surface of the front panel 22. The pouch back portion 48 abuts a chest of a user when the sweatshirt 20 is being worn by the user.

With respect to the above description then, it is to be realized that the optimum dimensional relationships for the parts of the invention, to include variations in size, materials, shape, form, function and manner of operation, assembly and use, are deemed readily apparent and obvious to one skilled in the art, and all

equivalent relationships to those illustrated in the drawings and described in the specification are intended to be encompassed by the present invention.

5 Therefore, the foregoing is considered as illustrative only of the principles of the invention. Further, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction and operation shown and described, and accordingly, all suitable
10 modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the invention.